

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8788
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TAGS: SNAR, GR(NARCOTICS CASES, TRIALS OF)
SUBJ: CHANGE IN COURT JURISDICTION IN NARCOTICS TRIALS)

PARIS FOR DEA; ROME FOR DEA AND LEGATT

1. ARTICLE 22 OF LAW 495 PASSED BY GREEK PARLIAMENT ON
DECEMBER 17, 1976 PROVIDES THAT NARCOTICS OFFENDERS SHALL
NO LONGER BE TRIED BEFORE MIXED CRIMINAL COURTS BUT BEFORE
FIVE-MEMBER COURTS OF APPEALS.
2. NEW PROCEDURE INTENDED TO SHORTEN PRE-TRIAL JUDICIAL
PROCEEDINGS. CASES WILL BE INTRODUCED TO COURT FOR TRIAL
DIRECTLY BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY UPON COMPLETION OF INVESTIGATION
BY EXAMING MAGISTRATE. INDICTMENT BY JUDICIAL COUNCIL
WILL NOT BE REQUIRED EXCEPT IN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.
3. FORTHCOMING TRIALS OF NARCOTICS CASES BEFORE MIXED
CRIMINAL COURTS, SCHEDULED PRIOR TO ENACTMENT OF NEW LAW,
NOW SUBJECT TO POSTPONMENT AND REFERRAL TO COURTS OF APPEALS.
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